

Guidance and Counseling Services **DIGEST**

Vol. 12, No.6

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

January 2015

Our Vision: That all schools will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with counselor educators, the Missouri School Counselor Association, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and other stakeholders to develop and provide resources and meaningful professional development that support professional school counselors and career services personnel in their efforts toward full implementation of their programs.

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Announcements

Resources and information provided in the Guidance Digest are for communication purposes only. Listing these resources and information does not constitute endorsement by either the Guidance and Counseling Services Section or the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

New Guidance Digest Distribution System

Over 1300 people have registered with this new system! Please share this information with any interested parties. To receive the Guidance Digest **you MUST subscribe** to the new Guidance Listserv at <http://lists.mo.gov/mailman/listinfo/guidancelistserv>. Follow the online directions; if you have any questions or concerns please contact Rene' Yoesel at rene.yoesel@dese.mo.gov

Get Energized

Michelle Obama's speech at the ASCA national convention acknowledging and appreciating professional school counselors can be seen at <http://schoolcounselor.org>. *What you do matters!*

Counselor Appreciation Week

February 2-6 - Know that you are appreciated! A reminder will be sent to building administrators that have accurate emails in DESE Core Data. You and your efforts are worthy of recognition and appreciation!

DESE Guidance and Counseling Website Update

Check out the new centralized collection of resources on the DESE Guidance and Counseling website under the center "Resources" section <http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/guidance-counseling>

- Certification
- Manuals, Guides and Handbooks
- MSIP5

Program Components

CURRICULUM

Nationally Recognized

In early December a call was received from a K-8 counselor in Mississippi who wanted a copy of our newly updated guidance curriculum. She wanted it all but realized it was almost 2,500 pages.

She learned about our materials at a "northern half of the state" counselors meeting. They have new mandates to have elementary counselors in the classroom on a regular basis and are struggling to find materials. Someone in the crowd referred her to our Missouri website and materials.

This counselor had already used some of the lesson plans and described them as "Fantastic! The kids love them. They are great!" She was also impressed with the new Individual Student Planning Rubrics and was gushing with compliments for the quality of our materials and sent big kudos to Missouri.

Check out and use these high quality unit and lesson plans that are provided for you!
<http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/guidance-counseling/curriculum>

The Missouri Transfer Library

The Missouri Department of Higher Education has developed a 'library' of courses that will transfer on a one-to-one equivalent basis among all public two- and four-year colleges and universities and participating private institutions in Missouri.

http://dhe.mo.gov/news/show.php?u=Transfer_library&yr=2014

MoreNet Resources

Click the center pictures on the home page for a wide variety of learning and tutoring resources. Schools who are MoreNet members have access to even more!

<http://www.learningexpresshub.com/career-center/libraryhome>

EBSCP Host

Another educational site with extensive resources for students and schools provided by the Missouri State Library. <http://search.ebscohost.com>

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

Breaking Traditions

The Breaking Traditions Awards recognize students who are pursuing non-traditional careers. Materials, including program overview, application and scholarship information have been updated and posted to the DESE Guidance and Counseling website. [Breaking Traditions 2015](#). Contact your [College and Career Consultants](#) for more information and support. [Breaking Traditions 2014 Winners](#)

Missouri Connections

Check out the Apprenticeship and Military links under the "Training" tab on the front page of Missouri Connections: <http://www.missouriconnections.org/materials/training.htm> For more information, contact Jackie Coleman at jcoleman@motrainer.com or 573-634-0043 or Tom Schlimpert at tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-6875.

Career Videos

- Gigniks is a California based project that facilitates student created career videos. An interesting initiative that provides some excellent videos. <http://www.gigniks.org/>
- Success in the New Economy provides viable stat's and perspective: <http://vimeo.com/67277269>

Missouri Department of Higher Education Information and Materials

Do you work with high school seniors who may be considering attending a postsecondary program during the 2015-2016 academic year? Spread the word that students and parents can get help filling out the 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the first step in applying for most federal, state and institutional financial aid, at any of the 88 [FAFSA Frenzy events](#) around the state in January, February and March. Students who attend a FAFSA Frenzy event will be entered into a statewide drawing to win a scholarship that can be used for enrollment in a Missouri higher education program for the fall 2015 term. For more information about FAFSA Frenzy, visit:

- Student Information [FAFSA Frenzy](#)
- Counselor Information <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/collegegoalsundayFAO.php>.
- Completing FAFSA <https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out>. Similar information to the "7 Things You Need..." link below, in different format.
- Completing Your FAFSA - video announcement [FAFSA Frenzy PSA](#)

FAFSA Information

The U.S. Department of Education [ED Blog](#) provides the following information:

[7 Things You Need Before You Fill Out the FAFSA*](#)

[6 Steps to Filling Out the FAFSA](#)

[5 Reasons You Should Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)

[Parents: Tips To Help Your Child Complete the FAFSA](#)

[7 Common FAFSA Mistakes](#)

Free Materials

The Missouri Department of Higher Education offers free materials to help students plan and prepare for college. The following items have just been added to the [online publication order form](#) and are now available to order:

- [It's Never Too Early brochure](#) – After being out of stock since late October, this helpful guide to college planning for professionals who work with high school students and parents of younger students is now at the printer and ready for pre-order. *Contains information for elementary, middle and high school parents.*
- [FAFSA Frenzy](#) promotional leaflets – These 8.5" x 3.75" leaflets feature English wording on one side and Spanish on the other. FAFSA Frenzy site coordinators have ordered and distributed their needed quantities for 2015 events and there are plenty still in stock. If you work with students who are preparing for college for the 2015-2016 academic year, be sure to help spread the word about FAFSA Frenzy.
- [Missouri College Application Week](#) silicone wristbands in lime green – The MCAW program will be re-branded and re-named next year. These silicone wristbands may be ordered to distribute to high school students, through project graduation programs, or other education-related events and programs.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the MDHE at 800-473-6757 or at info@dhe.mo.gov.

Missouri Gaming Association 2015 Project 21 Scholarships

The Missouri Gaming Association Project 21 Scholarship Program provides students an opportunity to disseminate their message by writing an article or creating a poster or video addressing the issue of underage gambling. The article, poster or video entry, completed application and other required documentation as outlined in the application must be received by **MARCH 1, 2015**. For more information please contact info@missouricasinos.org or click on this link to download the application –

http://www.missouricasinos.org/tiny_mce/jscripts/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/2015_Project_21_Application.pdf

Missouri Department of Higher Education Newsletter

The Journey to College [Monthly Reminder](#), is an electronic resource produced by the Missouri Department of Higher Education and is packed full of postsecondary tips directed toward Missouri's students and their parents. Subscribe to the Monthly Reminder at <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/reminders2.php>.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

MPACT

MPACT is a statewide parent training and information center that serves parents of children with all disabilities. Our primary goal is to assist parents in their effort to effectively advocate for their children's educational rights and services. MPACT staff and volunteers are located throughout Missouri and work with public and private agencies, parent groups, professional organizations and advocacy groups to achieve that goal. Please check out our website www.ptimpact.org for more information.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

College and Career Consultants

Your regional College and Career Consultant is a valuable resource to support you and your guidance and counseling program. [College and Career Consultants](#).

Counselor Role in IEP and 504 Plans

The following guidelines are taken from page 38 of the Guidance Program Manual:

<http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/SectionIII.pdf>

- C. Completing and managing Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and meeting other special education requirements
 - School counselors should not function as case managers for students with special needs.
 - School counselors could be members of the team involved in the diagnostic aspects of the IEP. However, they should not be responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring of the IEP or the Individualized Vocational Education Plan unless they are funded by special education or by vocational education funds.
 - School counselors could take part in staffings and conferences when appropriate but should not coordinate or chair the staffings, conferences, or IEP meetings.
- D. Completing and managing 504 Plans
 - As with IEP's school counselors should not function as the case manager for 504 plans, but should be a part of the team when it is warranted. This would occur when a student on the caseload of a school counselor is in need of a 504 Plan.

The Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA)

The Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA) are the new exams Missouri educators, including counselors, seeking initial certification must take. The following link is an overview and study guide of the counselor assessment. It is a great resource for people completing their degree programs and preparing for this assessment. Sample questions are included on the right hand box under Sections.

http://www.mo.nesinc.com/Content/STUDYGUIDE/MO_SG_OBJ_056.htm

Professional Resources

Your two primary professional organizations provide many excellent resources, including:

MSCA "Resources" - <http://moschoolcounselor.org/>

- Advocacy Resources
- Position Papers
- Pointers for Parents

ASCA - <http://schoolcounselor.org/> Go to:

- School Counselors and Members tab
- About ASCA
 - Mindsets and Behaviors
 - Position Statements (multiple topics)

Conferences and Professional Development Opportunities

MSCA Spring Conference

February 27, Location Lodge of the Four Seasons

Get ready for a dynamic, new professional development experience at the 2015 MSCA Take Ten Conference! This one-day conference will provide the professional school counselor an opportunity to walk away with at least 10 principles, techniques or ideas that you can take back to your school or office.

Building Bridges

March 2-3, 2015 Location TBD

Meet the professionals who say, "I Build."

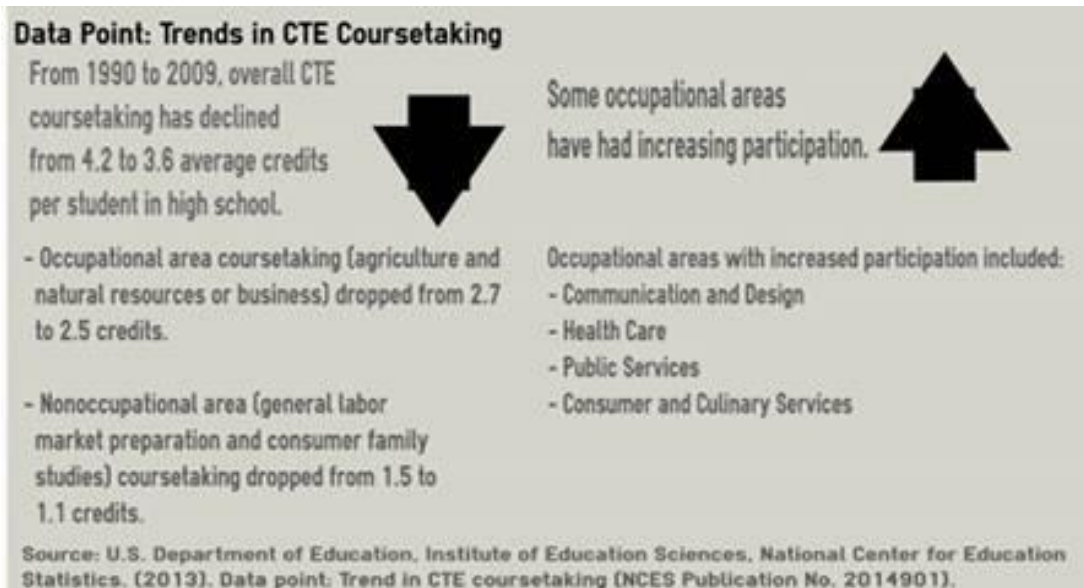
April 14, 2015 at Bartle Hall in Kansas City. The iBuild Showcase is an annual exposition to bring students together for an opportunity to connect with industry professionals (engineers, architects, construction management and skilled trades), to participate in hands-on activities, and to learn how important math, science and other academic skills are to the construction industry. For more information visit their website, <http://nice-kc.com/>.

Interesting Insights

Project Lead the Way - The number of students in Project Lead the Way continues to rise. There are currently more than 8,700 engineering students and more than 4,000 biomedical students registered for 2014.

Middle Skills Job Face Shortages

Employers in trucking and medical-records sectors are among those facing labor shortages, according to recent data. Vacancies for jobs that require postsecondary education or professional certification but not a four-year degree abound, with unfilled trucking jobs leading the pack with only 54% of open positions filled each month. [The Wall Street Journal \(tiered subscription model\)/At Work blog](#)



"No Boyz" Tech Classes

ACTE provides an interesting article about girls only career tech. classes in Portland, Oregon.

["No Boyz" Tech Classes](#)

Implement the Big IDEA

If students are to learn something, adults must practice:

I – Instruction – They need verbal explanation and conversation. (Hear it)

D – Demonstration – They need observation and examination. (See it)

E – Experience – They need participation and practice. (Do it)

A – Assessment – They need to evaluate and measure growth. (Debrief it)

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary." Vidal Sassoon

"Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own actions." Dalai Lama

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator–Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.